

WINTER 2003

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Kansas Kids Said it...

Inside:

The Governor's Recycling

Kansas Kids Said It

Meet Ican

The Perfect Holiday Tree

Play the Web Game

What's Your Opinion

Solve the Crossword Puzzle

Decode the Message



Look Mom! No Bagging!

"When we mow the yard, we don't catch the grass. It helps the soil and our landfills."

- Beau, Age 12

What do YOU have to tell us? Send us your photo and a one or two sentence "quote" and we'll try to use it in an upcoming issue of Kansas Kids Can.

Email us at bwm_web@kdhe.state.ks.us, or send it through the mail to:

KDHE Bureau of Waste Management
Attn: Kansas Kids Can
1000 SW Jackson Suite 320
Topeka, Kansas 66612



"Every year, lots of cans are thrown away – and they end up on our streets.

But if we would recycle them, that aluminum will be put back on the shelf as another aluminum can in 90 days."

- Zech, Age 10



"I like living out in the country. Sometimes, I go out on the road and pick up litter that others have thrown down.

But, I don't mind because I like to take walks on our clean land."

- Shannon, Age 8

ICAN says "GTSY*!"

I'm ICAN, and I'm showing up all over the place!

I'm making my 1st appearance in this issue of Kansas Kids Can! I'm a LOL* kind of guy bringing you C&G's* plus answers to FAQ's*. I'm EVERYWHERE – in this issue – and will continue to KIT*. I will also CYAL8R* at all kinds of fun stuff sponsored by Kansas, Don't Spoil It! "OIC,*" you say. Look for my <s>* face all around! L8R G8R *– ICAN.

**Look for ICAN's face for translation of the letters that you might not understand in this article!*

Translation:

GTSY= Glad To See Ya'!

LOL = laughing out loud

C&G's = chuckles and grins

KIT=keep in touch

FAQ's = frequently asked questions

CYAL8R=See Ya' Later

OIC = Oh, I See

<s> = Smiling

L8R G8R = Later, Gator!



If you have a fun story about how you, your family or your class at school is making a difference in the Kansas environment, please mail it to:

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To find the location of your nearest recycling center, visit our website at www.kansasdontspoilit.com.

FUN FACT:

The Governor's Recycling!!

Governor Kathleen Sebelius is leading the way on recycling in Kansas! We asked her about recycling, and how she is involved:

KKC: Is it true that *EVEN THE GOVERNOR* recycles?

Governor Sebelius: Absolutely, this Governor does. I have always encouraged recycling. It is the right thing to do for our environment. I also think it's important that I lead by example.

KKC: What kinds of things do you recycle?

Governor Sebelius: We recycle cans, glass, cardboard and newspaper at Cedar Crest, the Governor's residence. I've been informed that I am the first Governor who has taken such an extensive interest in recycling at the residence.

KKC: How long ago did you start recycling?

Governor Sebelius: I have been recycling for years!



THINGS THE GOVERNOR
RECYCLES
Newspaper Cans
Cardboard Glass

KKC: Why do you recycle, and does it really make a difference?

Governor Sebelius: I believe it is our responsibility to recycle

and do our part to help protect the environment. I believe with recycling, we can each make a difference.

KKC: As Governor, can you just **MAKE** everybody recycle?

Governor Sebelius: I certainly can't make them, but I would strongly encourage people to recycle. Once you get in the recycling routine, it becomes second nature.

KKC: If you could tell all the kids in the state to do something that would help our Kansas environment, what would it be?

Governor Sebelius: Talk to your parents about recycling. Learn where recycling drop off locations are, and do your part to keep Kansas beautiful.

What happens to the Governor's recyclables after she throws them into the recycling bins?

1. The recycled items in the bins at Cedar Crest are taken to the recycling bins that look like this.



2. A truck picks up the recycling bins and takes them to the Shawnee County Recycling Center.



3. The items then take a ride on the conveyor into the sorting area.



4. People then sort the items on the conveyor belt, separating the material that shouldn't be in the pile.



6. After all the sorting is complete, the items are taken to the centers where they are turned into raw materials again and reused for other products.



5. The separated items are put into their own bins.

FUN FACT: YOU can help by recycling and encouraging others to recycle, too!



Don't forget to recycle this newsletter!

You CAN, says Ican, Pitch It to Pitch In



Local elementary school students pitch in to stash their trash, in efforts to help keep Kansas clean.



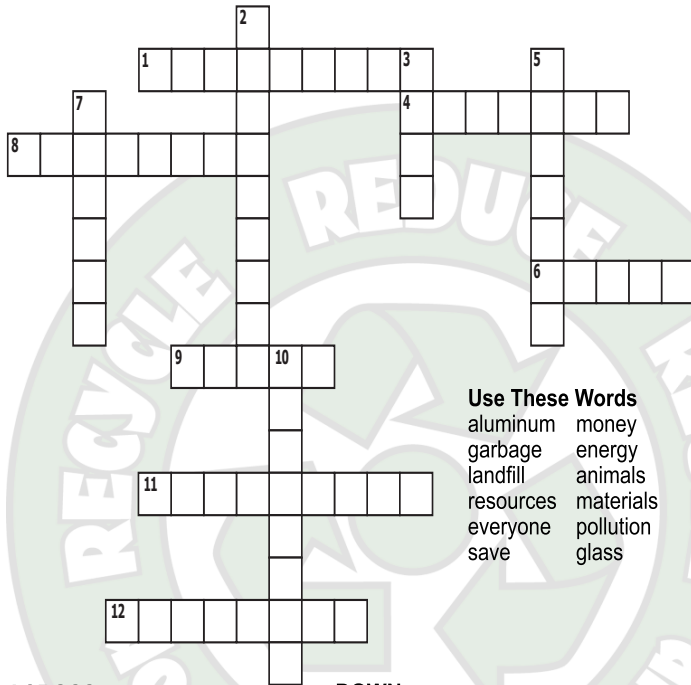
Your Opinion

Log on to www.kansasdontspoilit.com and check out the GREAT calendar contest winners – then tell us which one you like and why. We'll try to use your responses in an upcoming issue of *Kansas Kids Can!*



Why Recycle?

Recycling helps us preserve our environment and keeps valuable material out of our landfills. There are also a lot of other reasons to recycle. Complete the crossword to find out why we should recycle.



Use These Words
aluminum money
garbage energy
landfill animals
resources materials
everyone pollution
save glass

ACROSS

1. Recycling saves natural _____.
4. Recycling, instead of littering, protects _____.
6. _____ never wears out, it can be recycled forever.
8. Recycling helps keep fewer materials from going to the _____.
9. You can earn _____ by turning in your aluminum cans at the recycling center.
11. Recycling lets us reuse _____ instead of having to get more from the Earth again.
12. It takes 20 times more energy to make an _____ can from new materials than from recycled materials.

DOWN

2. Recycling creates less _____ in the air.
3. If we create less garbage, our communities can _____ landfill space.
5. Taking things that would be _____ and reusing them is a great way to help save the Earth.
7. It takes less _____ to make a new product from recycled materials than it does from raw materials.
10. _____ must recycle in order to make the world a better place.



Kansas Kids Can is published 4 times a year for 4th grade students throughout the state of Kansas.

Kansas Kids Can is the creation of the *Kansas Don't Spoil It* Program, a program of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. *Kansas Don't Spoil It* is an awareness and education program created to encourage Kansans to reduce, reuse and recycle waste and keep our state in a beautiful condition. Material in this newsletter is also available on the web at www.kansasdontspoilit.com. To order the Kansas Kids Can newsletter, submit writings or request additional information, write to:

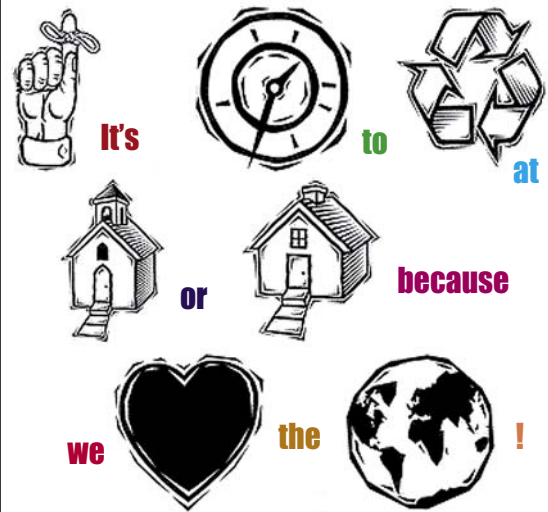
KDHE

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Winner!

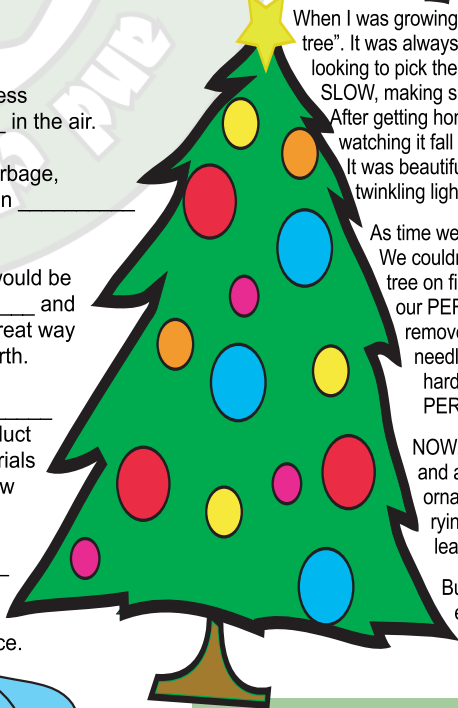
FUN FACT: 'Recycle' means to take something that is old and turn it into something that is new!



RECYCLE DECODER PUZZLE

Try & figure out the Secret Recycling Message!
The answer is upside down at the bottom of this page.

Finding the Perfect Holiday Tree



When I was growing up, we would pile into the car to choose "the holiday tree". It was always FREEZING, but we walked every row at the tree lot, looking to pick the best one. We would tie it on the car and drive real SLOW, making sure our PERFECT tree didn't tumble into the street.

After getting home and placing the tree in the stand, (and, often, watching it fall over) we were ready to decorate our PERFECT tree. It was beautiful with glittery ornaments, big fluffy bows, and lots of twinkling lights.

As time went by, the needles fell off, and the tree looked droopy. We couldn't turn on the lights for fear it might catch the dry tree on fire if they got too hot and when the holiday was over, our PERFECT tree was no longer perfect. It was NO fun to remove the decorations and drag it from the house. The needles were sharp and the MESS in the house was SO hard to clean up. It was a lousy ending for our once PERFECT tree.

NOW, my family has an artificial tree. It's easy to put up, and always PERFECT. It doesn't hurt my fingers to hang ornaments and bows. I can leave the lights on without worrying about fire. I don't have to drag it through the house leaving a big mess when it's time to take it down.

But most importantly, I'm not throwing it away, causing extra trash to go to the landfill. I can reuse my artificial tree, and it's PERFECT every time.

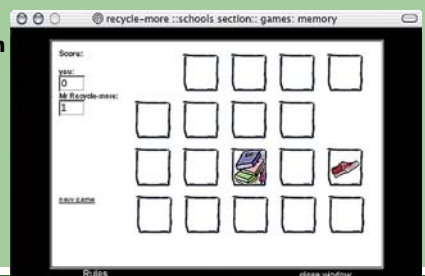
— Jennifer, KKC Writer

POINT, CLICK & PLAY!!

Jump onto our website at www.kansasdontspoilit.com and play the game.

The games will change, so be sure to log on often and see if you can win.

Every correct entry will be placed in a drawing for cool prizes to be given each quarter!



Last quarter's game winner was **VIVIAN GARDNER**, age 9, of Marmaton Valley Elementary School. CONGRATULATIONS, **VIVIAN**, winner of a *Kansas, Don't Spoil It!* backpack! Make sure you play and you may win, too!

Answer: Remember, it's time to recycle at school or home because we love the Earth!